



October 2006

South Central MIRECC

Pilot Study Research Program

Call for FY2007 Letters of Intent (LOIs)

Overview

- ❖ Letters of Intent (LOIs) are now being accepted for the South Central (VISN 16) MIRECC Pilot Study Research Program.
- ❖ **The new pilot study funding cap is \$30,000.** Expenses must be justified and proposals with more modest budgets are welcomed. For studies that require multiple sites, additional funds may be requested.
- ❖ Prioritization for funding will take into account:
 - scientific merit, including hypothesis and methods
 - the degree to which the award will provide pilot data that will facilitate extramural funding. Applications that are not judged likely to lead to a larger, non MIRECC funding **will not be considered for the pilot studies proposal.** Please note that other award mechanisms, such as the genesis award, are available for other types of projects.
 - the degree to which the award addresses current areas of SC MIRECC emphasis
 - *Mental health and aging*
 - *Stress and resilience*
 - *Mental health in non-specialty settings*
 - for previously MIRECC Research Pilot-funded investigators, evidence of past productivity with MIRECC funds.
- ❖ All MIRECC Core and Affiliate Research Investigators and Fellows are eligible to apply. Trainee proposals (i.e., those from Fellows, residents, or interns) must include a MIRECC Core or Affiliate Research Investigator as Co-Principal Investigator. In addition, trainees must demonstrate in the cover letter that the project can feasibly be completed within their period of training. *Although all trainees are eligible, prioritization will be given to those trainees with intent to remain within VISN 16 following their training.*
- ❖ On the basis of LOI review, selected investigators will be invited to develop full proposals.
- ❖ The FY2007, first round, calendar for submission deadlines are as follows:

LOI for MIRECC Pilot Study due	October 16, 2006
Invitations for full pilot study application	November 16, 2006
Pilot Study Proposals due	January 7, 2007
Funded Proposals Announced	February 19, 2007
Pilot Funds Distributed	March 19, 2007

Format for Letter of Intent

- ❖ In addition to providing a **CV or bio-sketch**, including a **listing of currently funded projects**, interested applicants should provide a **one-page narrative** (no smaller than Arial 11-point font) addressing the items listed below. Junior investigators are reminded to submit their LOI's through their mentors.
 - 1) Purpose – State the objective of the proposed study and briefly describe how this supports the South Central MIRECC Mission and priority areas, as applicable.
 - 2) Rationale/Hypotheses – Identify the hypothesis(es) and the empirical basis, theory, and/or conceptual framework of the study that supports the hypothesis(es).
 - 3) Methods – Provide an overview of study design and methodology, including an outline of the statistical approach.
 - 4) Resources Request – Identify the expected duration of the study, the estimated total cost
- ❖ **If invited to submit a full proposal, a four-page narrative will be required.**
- ❖ South Central MIRECC Pilot Study Research Letters of Intent should be sent to Melonie Shelton, via fax 501-257-1718, or via email: msshelton@uams.edu. Questions may be directed to Melonie at 501-257-1971 or to Dr. Lauren Marangell, South Central MIRECC Associate Research Director at 713-798-3832 x 4. **Letters of Intent for this cycle are due October 16, 2006.**